

ELECTION

The applicants elect Group VI directed to Figure 5A with traverse. Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 16, 18-20 read on this species. Further, claims 1, 6-9, and 18 are believed to be generic.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above-captioned patent application. Claims 1-20 are the subject of a restriction requirement. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended with this response. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the originally filed specification, including at Page 5, lines 19-29 and Page 7, lines 1-8, and Figures 1A and 5A. No new matter is believed to be added by this amendment.

The Applicants do not challenge that the species are patentably distinct. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that a reasonable number of species should be examined because at least some of the species are believed to be related. See M.P.E.P. §§ 806.04. In the present application, if the species of Figure 3 is additionally examined, only claim 4 will have to be examined in addition to the claims identified above. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also examine the species of Figure 3. Further, if the species of Figure 1A is additionally examined, only claims 2, 10-14, and 17 (seven additional claims) will have to be examined in addition to the claims identified above. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also examine the species of Figure 1A in addition to the species of Figures 5A and 3.

Conclusion

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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